

Message Text

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43

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6198

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 0208

STATE FOR CU/EE, USIA FOR IEU, MOSCOW PLS PASS TO CU/EE

DIRECTOR RICHMOND

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC RO

SUBJECT: MID-TERM REVIEW: IREX-NCST MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING

REF: STATE 004229

1. APPRECIATE REFTEL PROVIDING NEW INSIGHT ON STATUS OF IREX-NCST MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING IN CONTEXT OF PROGRAM OF EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION. WE LOOK FORWARD TO OPPORTUNITY FOR ADDITIONAL DISCUSSIONS THIS SUBJECT BETWEEN CU/EE DIRECTOR AND PAO DURING USIA CONFERENCE IN VIENNA NEXT WEEK. IN MEANTIME, WOULD APPRECIATE INFORMATION FROM DEPARTMENT REGARDING REASONS FOR IREX REVERSAL ITS POSITION ON PARTICIPATION IN MID-TERM TALKS. PLS TRANSMIT THIS INFORMATION BY COB WASHINGTON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14 SO THAT WE MAY DISCUSS HERE PRIOR TO PAO DEPARTURE FOR USIA CONFERENCE IN VIENNA JANUARY 15.

2. IN VIEW SUDDEN IREX CHANGE OF POSITION WE BELIEVE IT IN BEST INTEREST OF ALL CONCERNED IF IREX AND NCST REPS COULD MEET (PRESUMABLY IN WASHINGTON) IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO FORMAL GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT TALKS. WE URGE THAT DISCUSSIONS BE SCHEDULED TO ALLOW PAO AND SCIATT TAKE PART. PLS ADVISE. BARNES

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